ISSUE 08

AGRIVIEW

DECEMBER 2012 - JANUARY 2013

VOLUME 8

2013 Saskatchewan Beef Industry Conference

page 11

SASKATCHEWAN WHEAT AND BARLEY COMMISSIONS PAGE 4

CANADA PASTURE PROGRAM PAGE 9

LAND LEASE TENDERS PAGE 20

Saskatchewan Agriculture

Minister's Message

Growth, it starts in agriculture.

Earlier this fall, Premier Brad Wall outlined one of the most innovative and ambitious strategies for growth this province has ever seen. The Saskatchewan Plan for Growth: Vision 2020 and Beyond lays the foundation for long-term prosperity in Saskatchewan.

With this plan, we'll invest in infrastructure, advance Saskatchewan's natural resources sector, build on a skilled workforce, increase trade, increase international presence, maintain economic competitiveness and continued fiscal responsibility.

Saskatchewan's agriculture industry will be fundamental to the success of the growth plan.

Specifically, by 2020, Saskatchewan aims to increase crop production by 10 million tonnes and increase agriculture and agri-food exports by $5 billion. These are huge numbers, but consider what we've achieved in the last decade. In 2002, Saskatchewan's crop production was 14 million tonnes and a short five years ago, the province exported $4.9 billion in agricultural products. Today, we've almost doubled production and we've more than doubled export numbers. I have no doubt that the time is right and the stage is set for the farmers and ranchers of Saskatchewan to build on what they have already accomplished.

This government will continue to invest in rural Saskatchewan and in agriculture. We will meet the goals of the Growth Plan with investments in research infrastructure, development of the Global Institute for Food Security, investments in agricultural biotechnology, development of our added-value sector and investments in rural infrastructure. This year, the Ministry committed its largest agriculture research budget ever, and by consulting with industry, we will map out our path to innovation and success.

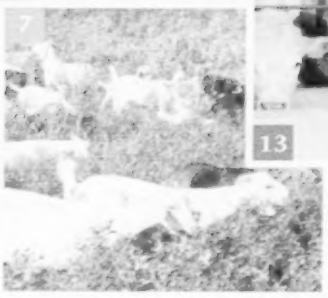
We will grow together. With agriculture, we will grow the economic diversity and prosperity of Saskatchewan and create a better quality of living for everyone.

Happy Holidays.

Lyle Stewart

STORY SNAPSHOTS

Cannata production



Multi-species grazing

Rumen acidosis and animal health

ADOPT program funding

TABLE OF CONTENTS

CROPS 4

LIVESTOCK 9

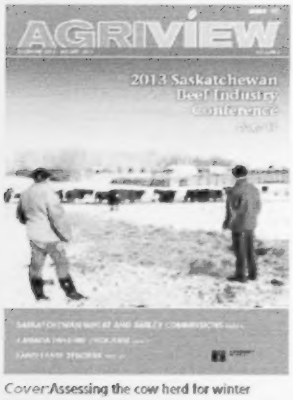
IRRIGATION 14

RESEARCH 15

AGRICULTURE AWARENESS 16

PROGRAMS AND SERVICES 17

EVENTS CALENDAR 24



Cover: Assessing the cow herd for winter feeding.

Saskatchewan Agriculture

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To view this publication online, visit www.agriculture.gov.sk.ca/programs-services.

Bringing focus to Saskatchewan wheat and barley

by Corey Ruud
Acting General Manager
Agri-Food Council

This past summer, existing farm groups from across the province began advocating for new leadership for wheat and barley in the province. Producer steering committees were then formed to establish plans for Saskatchewan wheat and barley commissions.

If producer support is favourable, the Government of Saskatchewan will be asked in the spring of 2013 to approve the new wheat and barley commission plans.

Financial forecasts for the proposed commissions estimate annual revenues in excess of $4 million for wheat and $1 million for barley. On average about 80 per cent of the revenues, or $4 million would be invested annually into wheat and barley research and market development priorities. The $4 million investment would be further leveraged with funding from other producer, public and private organizations.

Research priorities would be set by the commissions' boards in consultation with producers. Historically, research projects supported by provincial commissions have focused on developing new and improved crop varieties and new agronomic strategies and practices.

The proposed Saskatchewan wheat and barley commissions would generate funds through a refundable check-off. The check-off for the commissions would be deducted at the point of sale. Producers would be able to request a refund and seed sales would be exempt.

The proposed check-off is $0.52 per tonne for wheat and $0.50 per tonne for barley, or slightly over one cent a bushel for both wheat and barley.

In addition to the above check-offs, producers will also have $0.48 and $0.56 per tonne check-offs for wheat and barley submitted to the Western Grains Research Foundation. This would make the total check-off for Saskatchewan producers $1.00 per tonne for wheat and $1.06 per tonne for barley.

Currently Alberta producers contribute a total check-off of $1.18 per tonne for wheat and $1.04 per tonne for barley. Manitoba producers are currently evaluating the establishment of wheat and barley associations* or a joint cereals association that would be funded by producers' check-offs and begin operations August 1, 2013.

Dollar-for-dollar, year in and year out, no other production cost is more affordable or generates more value for producers than check-off dollars. Check-off dollars leverage government and industry funding, which together help develop new varieties, improve and refine agronomic practices or traits and develop new domestic and export markets.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

- Contact Carman Read, Wheat and Barley Steering Committees, at (403) 748-4425 or by email at carmanread@shaw.ca.

** Commissions are referred to as associations in Manitoba.*

UREASE INHIBITORS AND POLYMER-COATED UREA CAN INCREASE EFFICIENCY AND SEEDLING SAFETY

by Kim Stonehouse, M.Sc. PAg
Regional Crops Specialist, Tisdale
Regional Services Branch

When applying nitrogen fertilizer, choosing the right product can improve efficiency and/or seedling safety, depending on the method of application and timing.

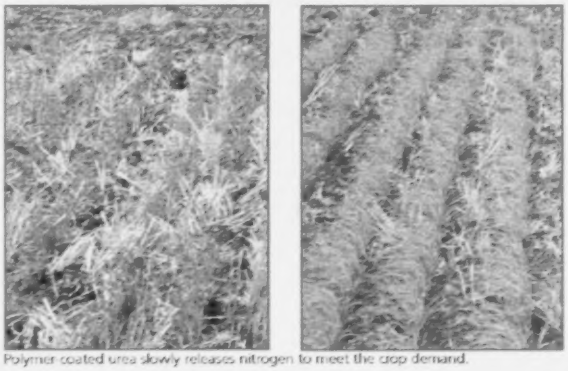
Urease inhibitors, such as Agrotain®, slow the conversion of urea to ammonium for up to two weeks. This can offer some seedling safety, but the preferred use of a urease inhibitor is for top-dressing nitrogen fertilizer on winter wheat and forages, and for post-seeding liquid fertilizer applications. Due to the slowed conversion to ammonium, volatilization is also slowed, thereby allowing more time for rain to wash the nitrogen into the soil and increasing efficiency by reducing losses.

Polymer-coated urea, like ESN®, physically blocks the release of nitrogen until certain temperature and moisture conditions exist, then it slowly releases the urea through the polymer membrane to meet the crop demand for nitrogen. In this case, seedling toxicity is reduced significantly, allowing rates of seed-placed nitrogen to be safely increased by two to three times that of uncoated urea, providing the polymer coating is not cracked or damaged by excessive handling. Research has shown that these recommendations may be conservative if care is taken to maintain the integrity of the polymer coating. Polymer-coated urea may also increase the efficiency of side-banded nitrogen when conditions are highly conducive to leaching losses such as during wet springs.

Recent research with polymer-coated urea and urease inhibitors has suggested that these products can be used for managing various field situations to reduce losses, resulting in improved nitrogen use efficiency.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

- Kim Stonehouse, Regional Crops Specialist, Tisdale, at (306) 878-8807 or at kim.stonehouse@gov.sk.ca; or
- The Agriculture Knowledge Centre at 1-866-457-2377.



Polymer coated urea slowly releases nitrogen to meet the crop demand.

Carinata production in Saskatchewan

by Venkata Vakulabharanam, MSc, PAg
Provincial Specialist, Oilseed Crops
Crops Branch

In 2012 Saskatchewan growers started the contract production of a new oilseed crop, *Brassica carinata* (carinata), also called Ethiopian mustard.

This crop is being developed as an industrial oilseed crop in the prairies under the Mustard 21 Initiative. Agrisoma Biosciences Inc. is the commercial partner for Mustard 21 industrial crop development. Carinata's well developed root system provides natural drought tolerance. Its seed yield is similar to open-pollinated canola, and its seed weight is higher than canola. Pods are non-shattering and are suitable for harvest under dry conditions. Carinata is also tolerant to blackleg, alternaria, insect pests and heat. This crop is being developed as a platform for biodiesel, biojet fuel and biopesticides.

Saskatchewan's Agricultural Development Fund has funded research projects for the development of carinata as an industrial crop since 2007.

Agrisoma Biosciences Inc., through their partner Paterson Grain, has successfully launched the contract commercial production of carinata crop as Resonance™ Energy Feedstock in western Canada. In 2012 they introduced the first variety of carinata - Resonance AAC A100. It was grown on approximately 6,600 acres with more than 40 growers across southern Saskatchewan and southern Alberta. Even though 2012 was challenging for crop production, the carinata crop fared well. Early harvest reports showed as much as 42 bu/ac yield. Carinata also performed well in areas that experienced hail.

Carinata production was insured under the Saskatchewan Crop Insurance Corporation's Diversification Option available for crops and varieties that are not insurable under core multi-peril crop insurance. To be eligible for this option, growers must also have insured acres of traditional grains, oilseeds or pulses in the multi-peril program. A maximum of 30 per cent of total acres insured under the grains program can be included under the Diversification Option.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

- on 2013 crop contracts, visit www.agrisoma.com.

Carinata: a new oilseed crop in Saskatchewan.

WESTERN CANADIAN CROP PRODUCTION SHOW - JANUARY 7-10, 2013

by John Ippolito, PAg
Regional Crops Specialist, Kindersley
Regional Services Branch

The Western Canadian Crop Production Show is an important event for cereal, pulse and oilseed producers in Western Canada. The show provides crop producers the opportunity to meet with exhibitors and get information on crop production, farm business management and crop marketing. This year's exhibitors come from a wide variety of areas, including technology, products and services for crop producers. The 2013 show will be held from January 7 to 10 at Saskatoon's Prairieland Park.

The 2013 show will feature a return of the Spraying Innovations – Crop Protection Technology Clinic. This clinic includes in-depth sessions on sprayer calibration and nozzle selection, as well as manufacturer specific application and precision steering information and advice.

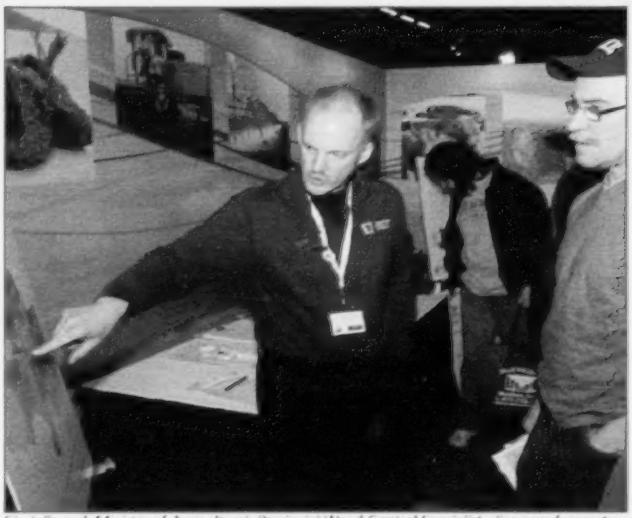
The Crop Production Show provides an opportunity for the Ministry of Agriculture to interact with producers and launch new publications and guides for the upcoming cropping season. Watch for the new *Crop Planning Guides* and *Guide to Crop Protection*. The Ministry booth, located in Hall B, also provides the latest forecasts for crop insects, as well as survey information on crop diseases and moisture conditions.

New this year is the 2012 Saskatchewan Farm Machinery Custom and Rental Rate Guide Calculator. This is a spreadsheet that producers can use to fine-tune their calculations on custom and rental machinery rates. Be sure to stop by the Ministry booth to look at the capabilities of this calculator.

The Western Canadian Crop Production Show and Crop Production Week have a common website that includes detailed information, including meeting agendas.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

- Visit www.cropweek.com.



Clark Brenzil, Ministry of Agriculture's Provincial Weed Control Specialist, discusses forecasts with a Crop Production Show attendee at Saskatchewan Agriculture's booth in 2011.

Varieties of Grain Crops 2013 will be available in January

by Mitchell Japp, M.Sc, PAg
Provincial Specialist, Cereal Crops
Crops Branch

Saskatchewan producers will soon be able to evaluate the newest grain crop varieties available for production on their farms in the *Varieties of Grain Crops 2013*. The variety comparisons are made available by an industry-government partnership.

Regional variety trials are conducted annually in Saskatchewan to compare the agronomic performance of grain crop varieties in a range of environments, under consistent management practices. Regional testing is done at both public and private research institutions around Saskatchewan.

The testing program is administered by the Saskatchewan Variety Performance Group, a group representing organizations from industry and government that have an interest in variety testing information. The Saskatchewan Variety Performance Group administers the regional tests for wheat, durum, malt and feed barley, oats and flax. Other organizations conduct regional testing for other crops. The results of the testing are reviewed by the Saskatchewan Advisory Council on Grain Crops, which also updates disease and other agronomic information, and approves the data prior to publication.

The program creates a database, providing producers with independent, comparative information on the varieties they grow. The published results include information on yield, agronomics and certain market-related traits valuable to producers. Depending on the crop type, information can include factors such as yield, maturity, protein, lodging, disease resistance, height, seed weight, bleaching and other traits.

The varieties of each crop are compared to a standard check variety so fair comparisons can be made. Check varieties are generally a commonly grown variety with cross-regional adaptation. Since not all varieties are tested 'head-to-head' over the same years, producers are reminded to compare individual varieties with only the check variety.

Regional testing of crop varieties is conducted to provide producers with information on the agronomic performance of varieties under different agro-climatic conditions. The information is available in the *Varieties of Grain Crops* publication, which is available each January on the Saskatchewan Ministry of Agriculture website, from Ministry regional offices, at the Crop Production Show and as an insert to the SaskSeed supplement distributed with *The Western Producer* in January.

Along with numerous forms of industry contribution, the Saskatchewan Ministry of Agriculture annually provides $100,000 towards variety testing.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

- Contact Mitchell Japp, Provincial Cereal Crops Specialist, at mitchell.japp@gov.sk.ca or (306) 787-4664; or
- Visit www.agriculture.gov.sk.ca/Varieties_Grain_Crops.

NEW *2013 GUIDE TO CROP PROTECTION* AVAILABLE IN JANUARY

by Clark Brenzil, PAg
Provincial Specialist, Weed Control
Crops Branch

The *2013 Guide to Crop Protection* will be available at the Western Canadian Crop Production Show in Saskatoon from January 7 to 10, 2013. Visit the Saskatchewan Ministry of Agriculture booth to pick up your copy. The *2013 Guide to Crop Protection* will also be available at your local farm chemical retail outlet or Ministry of Agriculture Regional Services Office following the show and throughout the growing season.

Along with the usual updated uses, there are several new herbicides, fungicides, insecticides and seed treatments in this issue. The trend towards increasing numbers of generic products continues in this year's guide. These products are listed under their active ingredient names in the product pages.

A new feature in the *2013 Guide to Crop Protection* will be an expansion of the Pesticide Formulations and Companies chart that is in the front of the book. In addition to listing crop protection products by their brand name, a second chart will list pesticides (herbicides, fungicides, seed treatments and insecticides) by active ingredient names. This will allow users to quickly search for all products that contain a specific active ingredient.

An electronic version of the *2013 Guide to Crop Protection* will also be available in January on the Saskatchewan Agriculture website at www.agriculture.gov.sk.ca/Guide_to_Crop_Protection. Look for the spring update at the same location in May.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

- Contact the Agriculture Knowledge Centre at 1-866-457-2377.

Brush and weed control – the alternative use for goats

Nadia Mori, MSc, PAg
Regional Forage Specialist, Watrous
Regional Services Branch

Increasing concerns regarding weed infestations and woody plant encroachment on pastures is causing people to consider alternative and economical control options. Through targeted grazing management, goats can be used as a tool to control noxious weeds, poisonous plants and undesirable brush on perennial pasture, as well as to establish and maintain fire breaks in forested areas. With these concepts in mind, the Canadian Meat Goat Association implemented a project, funded through the Agricultural Demonstration of Practices and Technologies (ADOPT) program, this summer at the Wolverine community pasture near Lanigan.

A herd of 700 goats was placed in a 960 hectare (2,297 acre) field of the community pasture with excess brush. Pasture Manager, Eric Weisbeck, was pleased to see the grazing impact the goats had on the dense patches of snowberry, wolf willow and young aspen trees, while the grass undergrowth remained relatively untouched. The city of Kamloops has been using a commercial goat grazing service for weed management, similar to this project. In their experience, goat grazing can cost about half the price of chemical application.

Pasture manager Eric Weisbeck talks to the attendees of the Multi Species Grazing Conference about his experience co-grazing cattle and goats.

Goats at work for the brush control project at the Wolverine Community Pasture.

This ADOPT project lead to a multi-species grazing conference held Sept. 5th and 6th in Humboldt. Among the presenters was Dr. An Peischel, a small ruminant expert from the University of Tennessee. She highlighted to producers her experiences successfully using goats in land restoration projects, removing undesirable plants, fertilizing the land and building better soil properties.

Goat grazing can provide an opportunity for goat producers to work with landowners to economically control weeds such as large-scale leafy spurge infestations, manage brush encroachment and provide weed control along highway ditches.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

- Contact your local Regional Forage Specialist; or
- Call the Agriculture Knowledge Centre at 1-866-457-2377.

IRRIGATION AND DRAINAGE: THE KEY TO SUSTAINABILITY

by Kelly Farden, PAg
Irrigation Agrologist
Irrigation Branch

Irrigation and drainage go hand in hand. The timely removal of excess water from the field is essential to prevent soils from becoming waterlogged and crops from drowning out. Poorly drained areas not only act as obstacles for centre pivot operations but can also lead to water table buildup and soil salinization.

As part of the Irrigation Certification process, Irrigation Branch indicates whether fields require drainage prior to irrigation development and provides support to resolve drainage requirements.

When considering new drainage works, the first step is to ensure that all the proper approvals are in place. All drainage in Saskatchewan falls under the jurisdiction of the Water Security Agency (WSA), formerly the Saskatchewan Watershed Authority.

Irrigation districts typically have drainage plans with adequate outlets. Any water that is drained off of land into district drains will require the approval of the WSA as well as the irrigation district. If drainage water first crosses neighboring lands or rural municipality (RM) ditches before getting to its adequate outlet, consent from the RM and all affected land owners is required.

Obtaining all the proper approvals will ensure that the water drains into an adequate outlet and will not cause damage downstream. Unauthorized drainage that has been deemed to cause problems downstream can be shut down and returned to its natural state with all related costs to be assumed by the offending landowner.

Once all the regulatory requirements have been met, Irrigation Branch can provide technical assistance with both survey and design for surface drainage works on irrigated land.

With an investment of more than $750 per acre in a centre pivot irrigation system and farm operating expenses that can exceed $350 per acre, every acre under that system counts towards its profitability. Drainage is important in irrigated fields for both profitability and sustainability, as well as the health of neighboring fields.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

- Contact the Ministry of Agriculture's Irrigation Branch at (306) 867-5500; or
- Contact the Water Security Agency at (306) 694-3900.

Installation of sub surface drainage line.

Regional pulse workshops happening this February

by Dale Risula
Provincial Specialist, Special Crops
Crops Branch

Saskatchewan Agriculture and the Saskatchewan Pulse Growers will once again present Regional Pulse Workshops in 2013.

This event will be held in five locations across Saskatchewan giving producers a chance to network with other growers, researchers and industry representatives. Speakers will address developments in marketing, variety development, agronomy, weather and pest management. Topics at each location will vary slightly to represent the local interests of growers. Industry representatives will be on hand to talk about new products and answer producers' questions.

Admission to the workshops is $20 which includes lunch and refreshments. Meetings start at 8:30 a.m. and end at 3:30 p.m. Due to the interest in these events, early registration is recommended.

FOR MORE INFORMATION or to register

- Contact the Ag Knowledge Centre at 1-866-457-2377.

North Battleford	Kindersley	Swift Current	Moose Jaw	Weyburn
When: Monday, February 4, 2013	**When:** Tuesday, February 5, 2013	**When:** Wednesday, February 6, 2013	**When:** Thursday, February 7, 2013	**When:** Friday, February 8, 2013
Where: TBD	**Where:** Kindersley Inn, 601-11th Avenue E	**Where:** Stockade Building, Kinetic Park, 1700 - 17th Avenue SE	**Where:** Cosmo Senior Citizen's Centre, 235 - 3rd Avenue NE	**Where:** McKenna Auditorium, 317 - 3rd Street NE

Swift Current Pulse Workshop in 2012

REVIVAL OF THE FABA BEAN

by Dale Risula
Provincial Specialist, Special Crops
Crops Branch

Faba bean was first introduced to the Prairies in the 1970s. At that time, breeding programs were launched to develop faba bean as a viable crop. High energy prices played a role in creating interest in faba bean, but adoption of this crop was minimal. Today, interest in faba bean has been revived because of the role it may have in sustainable cropping (nitrogen-fixation), the development of varieties with low vicine/convicine, the increasing demand for vegetable protein and crop diversification.

Current estimates put Saskatchewan production at about 6,000 acres for 2012. Worldwide, in 2010, approximately 6.4 million acres were planted and 4.06 million tonnes harvested (slightly less than the global lentil production of 4.6 million tonnes). Approximately 2.2 million acres were planted in China alone.

Pulse crops play a vital role in crop production because of their ability to fix atmospheric nitrogen and to provide several benefits in crop rotation. Faba bean is one of the highest nitrogen fixing crops currently in production; therefore, it can reduce fertilizer input use in the year of production and produce more available nitrogen for following crops. Faba bean also provides other agronomic benefits such as breaking disease cycles in other crops, and providing plant stubble for trapping snow and reducing erosion risks.

Currently, high-tannin faba bean is mainly used as food in traditional recipes (mainly in the Middle East) and canning (in the U.S. and Europe) and as livestock feed. Hopefully, its use may be expanded because faba bean is higher in protein than peas and would make an excellent feedstock.

Research in Europe and Canada has shown that faba bean is a suitable feed for swine. Traditionally feed markets do not provide the highest prices; however, they offer a base price in the event of a poor harvest and/or when production exceeds food market demand.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

- Visit www.agriculture.gov.sk.ca/faba-bean.

Faba bean crop in Saskatchewan.

Western Canadian Holistic Management Conference: Healthy people, healthy land and healthy profits

by Naomi Paley, BSA, PAg
Regional Livestock Specialist, Yorkton
Regional Services Branch

The concept of holistic management has been around for more than 25 years. It has helped producers restore damaged lands to health, increasing their productivity and profitability without huge infusions of cash, equipment or technology. Holistic management also considers the human side of farming, helping to solidify connections between families and communities.

The Western Canadian Holistic Management Conference is part of a series of Holistic Management Conferences delivered across Western Canada. It features several speakers who are experts in soil and crop management, financial management, human resource development and how to respond to management challenges. The 2013 speakers are:

- Dr. Martin Entz, University of Manitoba – Dr. Entz is a professor in the Department of Plant Science and focuses on cropping and natural systems agriculture. He will be speaking on the importance of integrated biological systems for food production.
- Peter Holter, CEO, Holistic Management – The mission of Holistic Management International (HMI) is to educate people to manage land for a sustainable future. Peter will talk about the new mission statement, programs, data tracking and the results-emphasis of HMI's latest system.
- Pierrette Desrosiers, Farm Psychologist – Pierrette is the first psychologist and specialized coach to respond to the agricultural industry in Canada. Pierrette will look at growing your emotional competencies in order to reap the benefits in a successful farm business.

The conference will be held at the Russell Community Centre and the Russell Inn in Russell Manitoba February 12 to 13, 2013. Early bird registrations are accepted until January 24, 2013 at a discounted rate of $165 per person. Late registration after this date is $200. To register, visit www.mbforagecouncil.mb.ca or call (204) 622-2006.

FOR MORE INFORMATION
- Call (204) 648-3965; or
- Email pamela.lyn[illegible]; or
- Visit www.mbforagecouncil.mb.ca.

CANADA PASTURE PROGRAM TRANSITION

by Todd MacKay
Crown Land Specialist
Lands Branch

Hundreds of Saskatchewan producers have been using community pastures to earn part of their livelihood since the 1930s. When the federal government made the decision to discontinue the Canada Pasture Program and transfer the land back to the provinces, Saskatchewan immediately made one point clear: pasture patrons are the province's priority. Saskatchewan is now working with patron groups as they put together plans to take over operation of their pastures.

An agreement between the Governments of Canada and Saskatchewan is providing more time for pasture patrons to prepare for the transition. Both governments have agreed to an arrangement that will allow federal employees to remain on all federal community pastures through 2013. While five pastures will be officially transferred back to Saskatchewan in 2013, these federal employees will be there to make sure it is business-as-usual for the next grazing season.

The Saskatchewan Government established an advisory committee made up of industry leaders to provide recommendations during this transition. They came forward with four key principles. 1) pasture patron groups will have the opportunity to own/lease and operate each pasture, 2) each pasture will be maintained as a complete block; 3) sales will be based on market values; and 4) any sale of native prairie land will be subject to no-break and no-drain conservation easements.

The ideal option for patrons is to purchase their pastures outright. Saskatchewan is working with Farm Credit Canada to develop financing options to facilitate these purchases. Ownership will give patrons greater long-term security, however leasing is also an option.

The first step for pasture patrons is to create a new legal organization, such as a grazing co-operative or corporation. Every patron group is unique, so different organizational structures can be created to meet local needs. These structures will not only organize pasture operations, they will also provide mechanisms for important tasks such as securing funding and outlining the process for patrons who want to exit the group.

The Saskatchewan Government is committed to working with patrons throughout this process and continues to meet with patron groups from across the province.

FOR MORE INFORMATION
- Contact Lands Branch at (306) 787-5322.

Transition of the Brand Inspection Program in Saskatchewan

by Paul Johnson, MBA, PAg
Executive Director
Livestock Branch

On July 30, 2012, Agriculture Minister Lyle Stewart announced the formation of an industry advisory committee to review delivery of the brand inspection program in Saskatchewan. This committee, consisting of representatives from the cattle and horse industries, was given a mandate of recommending an industry-led model for delivery of the brand inspection program.

Minister Stewart stated that he expects the brand inspection service to continue in Saskatchewan under the direction of livestock producers. Users of the brand inspection service have advised the Minister that the service is still wanted and needed. The objective of the committee is to begin transition of the service to an industry led organization in the spring of 2013.

The advisory committee has met twice to examine the current model of brand inspection in this province and to look at other models of brand inspection in Canada and the United States. The committee is looking closely at how to deliver the service more efficiently and whether integration with other brand inspection programs in Western Canada will benefit Saskatchewan producers. Members are also examining the needs of various stakeholders to ensure that those needs can be met. The committee will present a recommendation to Minister Stewart in January 2013.

The livestock industry is moving forward, taking ownership of the Livestock Brand Inspection Program

The industry advisory committee is led by co-chairs Mark Elford, representing the Saskatchewan Cattlemen's Association, and Harold Martens, representing the Saskatchewan Stock Growers Association.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

- Email [redacted]

BSE SURVEILLANCE IS STILL IMPORTANT FOR SASKATCHEWAN'S CATTLE INDUSTRY

by Dr. Wendy Wilkins, DVM, PhD
Disease Surveillance Veterinarian
Livestock Branch

Bovine spongiform encephalopathy (BSE) is a topic that cattle producers in Western Canada have not heard much about lately. This is because BSE is rarely found in Canada and market access has returned to pre-BSE levels. Most producers do not worry about it anymore and many believe that it is not an issue of concern to them.

BSE affects all cattle producers. To sell any product, market access is needed. For the cattle industry to have market access, a low risk of BSE in Canada needs to be demonstrated. To demonstrate low risk of BSE, Canada needs to have a strong BSE surveillance program. Most importantly, to have a strong BSE surveillance program, producers need to be on board.

BSE surveillance is needed to make sure Canada's BSE control measures are working. BSE test results show that cases of BSE have been decreasing over the years; eventually, the goal is to show the absence of BSE entirely, and prove the effectiveness of control measures.

Canada has a "controlled" BSE risk status. This means that even though BSE has been found in Canada in the past, proper surveillance, feed bans, reporting and education programs are in place. These activities must continue in order to maintain, and eventually improve, Canada's BSE risk status. Without these activities, Canada's BSE status may be downgraded, resulting in loss of international market access. Each animal that you have tested for BSE contributes to open market access for Canada.

Cattle over 30 months of age that are dead, down, dying or diseased are eligible for testing. Producers receive $75 from the CFIA for each eligible sample submitted. Call your veterinarian or the nearest CFIA office if you have an animal that meets any of the testing criteria.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

- Call the BSE surveillance hotline at 1-877-727-5273.

BSE surveillance is important for maintaining open markets.

Have you seen feral wild boar?

by Dr. Wendy Wilkins, DVM, PhD
Disease Surveillance Veterinarian
Livestock Branch
and

Sherri Dobbs, PAg
Provincial Livestock Development Specialist
Livestock Branch

Wild boar were first introduced to Saskatchewan during the 1990s as part of an agriculture diversification initiative. Smart and tough, some animals escaped from their pens. At first it was thought that these animals would be unable to survive the harsh Canadian prairie winters; however, they not only survived, they thrived. Hardy and adaptable, wild boar have become firmly established in the wild in some parts of the province.

Wild boar have few natural predators and, because of their intelligence, can be hard to hunt. Populations can increase very quickly, since sows are capable of producing up to two litters a year, with four to 12 piglets in each litter.

These animals are omnivores and, as such, eat a variety of plants, roots and animals, and root up the ground wherever they go. Groups of wild boar have been known to destroy acres of crop overnight. They not only damage private property, but also seriously damage native flora and fauna through their feeding habits and reproductive capability. In some parts of North America, uncontrolled wild boar populations have resulted in the complete destruction of wildlife habitat. Also, feral wild boar have the potential to become carriers of diseases and parasites that can harm the health of domestic livestock.

Wild boar tend to be most active at night, which makes them difficult to locate. Any person who sights feral wild boar should report it to the local RM office. The Saskatchewan Association of Rural Municipalities (SARM) administers **The Feral Wild Boar Control Program**, funded by the Ministry of Agriculture. SARM has a group of qualified hunters and trappers who will work with RMs and landowners to investigate sightings and take appropriate action to deal with feral wild boar.

Also, the Saskatchewan Crop Insurance Corporation (SCIC) provides 100 per cent compensation for crop and/or feed damage caused by feral wild boar through The Wildlife Damage Compensation Program. Wildlife damage compensation is available on claims $150 and over. There are no premiums and producers do not need to be Crop Insurance contract holders.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

- Contact your local Saskatchewan Crop Insurance Corporation office; or
- Call the SCIC toll-free line at 1-888-935-0000.

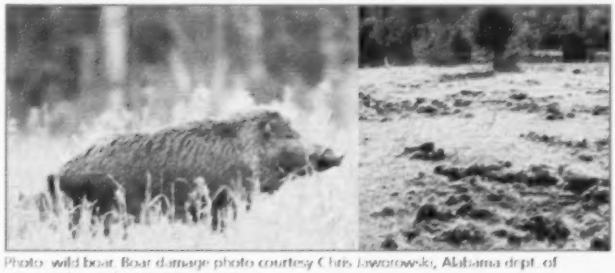


Photo: wild boar. Boar damage photo courtesy Chris Lewotowski, Alabama dept. of conservation and natural resources.

HARVESTING THE FUTURE AT THE 2013 SASKATCHEWAN BEEF INDUSTRY CONFERENCE

by Murray Feist, PAg, MSc
Ruminant Nutrition Specialist
Agriculture Knowledge Centre

The Saskatchewan Beef Industry Conference is an event that brings together Saskatchewan beef cattle producers, industry representatives, researchers, agriculture specialists and members of livestock associations and organizations in a collective forum.

The event takes place January 22 to 25, 2013, at the Saskatoon Inn and Convention Centre. It leads off with the Saskatchewan Beef and Forage Symposium providing updates on new research and technology in beef and forage production.

The conference also includes annual general meetings and workshops for various Saskatchewan livestock associations and agencies.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

- Contact the Saskatchewan Beef Industry Conference organizers at (306) 731-7610; or
- Visit www.saskbeefconference.com for additional information, registration details as well as tradeshow and sponsorship opportunities.

Dealing with poor quality feed

by Chelsey Carruthers, M.Sc., AAg
Regional Livestock Specialist, Watrous
Regional Services Branch
and

Jenifer Heyden M.Sc., PAg
Regional Livestock Specialist, North Battleford
Regional Services Branch
and

Dwayne Summach, M.Sc., PAg
Livestock Specialist, Kindersley
Regional Services Branch

Growing conditions in the province can result in many challenges, including disease in cereal grains and poor quality hay. What do these challenges mean to livestock nutrition?

Diseased cereal grains often end up as livestock feed and may affect animal health and nutrition. Mycotoxins are toxic compounds produced by fungus or moulds that form in the field or during grain storage. These toxins are potent and can affect livestock at low levels, but are difficult to measure in feed. Not all mouldy feed will produce mycotoxins, and the amount of mould does not necessarily correspond with the mycotoxin content. Testing feed for mycotoxin levels can determine whether the grain can be safely diluted, and which classes of livestock are least likely to be affected by the toxins present.

Common toxins affecting feed quality

1. Ergot, a fungus found in rye, wheat, barley, fescue, other grasses and pellets is the most common mycotoxin found in Saskatchewan. In beef cattle, grain containing more than 0.1 to 0.3 per cent ergot can cause gangrene of the hooves, ears and tails and can affect milk production. Pregnant or lactating cows should not be fed grain containing any level of ergot. Ergot levels above 0.05 per cent of the diet affect swine by seriously reducing milk production.

2. Fusarium species can produce several mycotoxins, the most common being dioxynivalenol or DON. For beef cattle, DON levels above 5 ppm in the diet can cause irritation of the skin and digestive tract, resulting in feed refusal, weight loss, scours and pneumonia. Swine and horses have lower tolerance levels, at a maximum of 1 ppm. DON intake can cause reproductive problems including abortion. Feeds containing DON can be diluted with unaffected grain to reach safe levels for consumption by livestock.

3. Dicoumarol is a mycotoxin produced by fungus in mouldy sweet clover bales. Not all mouldy sweet clover is toxic, and just because no mould is visible does not mean that the hay is safe. Dicoumarol interferes with blood clotting and can cause internal bleeding, abortion and death of newborn calves. This toxin is stored in the body of the animal for up to six weeks, therefore dilution of the affected feed does not alleviate the problem. Sweet clover should not be fed during the last trimester of pregnancy or for six weeks prior to procedures like dehorning or castration.

Ruminant animals are less susceptible to most mycotoxins than other livestock due to the ability of rumen microbes to neutralize the toxins. High producing animals, such as dairy cows, and young animals are more susceptible to mycotoxins than mature cattle.

Although mouldy feed is common, disease caused by mycotoxins is relatively uncommon in ruminants. Mycotoxins are usually found in grain and are unlikely to be found in mouldy forage. The most common consequence of mouldy feed is reduced feed quality. Moulds and bacteria reduce the available energy, protein and vitamins in the feed. Moulds also produce dust which can cause respiratory problems and decreased palatability, reducing feed intake which affects production.

Vitamin A content of baled forages decreases with time, and this loss is accelerated if the feed is mouldy or heated. Vitamin A is especially important during the last trimester of pregnancy, and deficiency can result in abortion, retained placentas and weak or dead calves. Rations containing mouldy or low quality hay should contain a vitamin A, D and E supplement, as well as supplemental energy and protein to meet the animals' requirements. Forage testing and working with a nutritionist to build a balanced ration will help to avoid problems associated with poor quality feed.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

- Contact your nearest Regional Livestock Specialist; or
- Call the Agriculture Knowledge Centre at 1-866-457-2377.

Forage should be tested to determine its nutritional value for livestock.

BVDV surveillance in Saskatchewan

by Wendy Wilkins, DVM, PhD
Disease Surveillance Veterinarian
Livestock Branch

The Ministry of Agriculture is pleased to announce a one-year project on the detection and control of bovine viral diarrhoea virus (BVDV) in Saskatchewan beef cattle.

This project will run for one year, from December 1, 2012, to November 30, 2013. The project is based on testing skin biopsies from aborted, sick, deformed or dead calves to detect the presence of persistently infected animals, followed up with a veterinary consultation to discuss and design customized BVDV control strategies for infected herds.

Tests detect persistently infected animals, the main source of BVDV.

BVDV costs the Canadian cattle industry millions of dollars annually. Persistently infected animals, the primary reservoirs of the disease, are present in more than 10 per cent of cow-calf herds tested in Western Canada. Herds with circulating BVDV have significantly lower weaning weights and more health problems overall. The effect BVDV has on herd fertility can vary from a nagging problem to a catastrophe with the potential to devastate a herd in one year.

Veterinarians can collect skin samples from cases submitted by producers or from animals seen during daily practice. Each veterinary clinic that expresses interest in participating will be sent sampling supplies and instructions. Producers can collect skin biopsies from suspect cases (an ear notch is the preferred method), but are asked to contact their local veterinarian for collection and submission instructions.

In addition to testing, this project will also provide follow-up when a persistently infected animal is detected. The producer will be provided with information on BVDV and a veterinarian will conduct an on-farm consultation to discuss and design a BVDV control strategy specific to their operation. Producers will be reimbursed up to $500 for veterinary fees associated with this project.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

- Contact Dr. Wendy Wilkins, Disease Surveillance Veterinarian at (306) 798-0253; or
- Email wendy.wilkins@gov.sk.ca.

HOW RUMEN ACIDOSIS IMPACTS ANIMAL HEALTH

by Bob Springer, PAg
Regional Livestock Specialist, Swift Current
Regional Services Branch

Cattle, at times, experience rumen acidosis. However its occurrence and negative impact on animal health and welfare may be greater than traditionally thought, according to Dr. Greg Penner, an Assistant Professor in the College of Agriculture and Bioresources at the University of Saskatchewan.

Rumen acidosis may have a greater impact on animal health than once thought.

Dr. Penner's research is focused on development of nutritional strategies to enhance the health and productivity of cattle. His focus is on gut function, including the impact of rumen acidosis on the health and function of the rumen. Rumen acidosis occurs when the pH of the rumen drops below 5.5 and can be caused by many factors, including high grain diets, abrupt changes in diets and feeding after a period of feed restriction, which may occur after long-distance transport to a pasture or feedlot. It can even occur on 100 per cent forage diets and when grazing.

The most commonly recognized impact of rumen acidosis is in feedlot cattle going 'off feed'. Through the use of advanced gut membrane research techniques, Dr. Penner has found that rumen acidosis may have additional health implications for cattle. His research indicates that acidosis results in greater permeability of the rumen wall, potentially allowing pathogens to cross from the rumen into the blood stream, thereby increasing the animal's susceptibility to disease. He also found that absorption of some nutrients through the rumen wall is reduced during and after bouts of acidosis.

Rumen acidosis is something that cattle feeders have been aware of and managed for many years. However, this new research suggests that the frequency of occurrence and negative impact of acidosis may be much greater than thought in the past. Further investigation into these areas will identify strategies to reduce the incidence, severity and duration of acidosis to improve animal performance and welfare in the future.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

- Contact Bob Springer, Regional Livestock Specialist at (306) 778-8289; or
- Contact the Agriculture Knowledge Centre at 1-866-457-2377.

2012 SIPA/ICDC Annual Conference

by Gerry Gross, PAg
Senior Irrigation Agrologist
Irrigation Branch

December 4 and 5 will be a busy time for The Irrigation Crop Diversification Corporation (ICDC) and the Saskatchewan Irrigation Projects Association (SIPA) as they hold their annual conference and annual general meetings in Moose Jaw at the Heritage Inn.

The 2012 SIPA Conference theme is "Let's Irrigate!" SIPA will provide updates on the status of federal divestiture of irrigation projects in southwest Saskatchewan, the Qu'Appelle Water Supply Bus Tour held this past summer, the status and economic impact analysis of the Upper Qu'Appelle Water Conveyance Project and Saskatchewan's new Water Security Agency will provide a report on Saskatchewan's 25-year Water Security Plan.

In 2012, the ICDC program featured grain crop variety trials, forage testing under irrigation including corn trials, seeding rate trials for irrigated wheat and canola, irrigation scheduling and the use of fungicides on cereals, flax and dry beans. Speakers will be presenting their results during the day.

ICDC is a non-profit corporation funded by collecting a levy from district irrigators. It is an Agriculture-Applied Research Management (Agri-ARM) site with support from the Ministry of Agriculture. ICDC's mandate is to ensure farmer-directed irrigation research, demonstration and extension programs are in place to support Saskatchewan's irrigators.

SIPA is a non-profit corporation representing the interests of the irrigation industry in Saskatchewan. SIPA is funded through voluntary producer levies and industry sponsorships. It is dedicated to the expansion of irrigation in Saskatchewan and is committed to promoting the values and benefits of irrigation to all citizens for the province's growth and economic well-being, now and into the future.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

- Visit www.irrigationsaskatchewan.com; or
- Contact Gerry Gross, Irrigation Agrologist at (306) 867-5523 or Gerry.gross@gov.sk.ca.

MANAGING NITROGEN FOR OATS

by Gary Kruger, PAg, CCA
Irrigation Agrologist
Irrigation Branch

A project initiated by the Irrigation Crop Diversification Corporation (ICDC) at the Canada-Saskatchewan Irrigation Diversification Centre this year looked at nitrogen response of oats on alfalfa breaking under irrigation.

Oats was chosen for two reasons: its root system takes up nutrients efficiently and its yield, relative to other crops, is not reduced as quickly by a short-term delay in nitrogen release from the soil. It is believed that oats may provide a relatively low input crop option for irrigation producers.

On dry land, the major release of nitrogen from alfalfa breaking may be delayed until the second year due to a lack of moisture preventing the soil micro-organisms from decomposing the crop residue.

Irrigation, however, improves the predictability of nitrogen supply from decomposing roots by providing the moisture needed for the rapid growth of micro-organisms. These micro-organisms then transform the organic crop residues into nutrients that the growing crop can use.

Triactor, a milling variety of oats and CDC Haymaker, a forage variety, were sown May 31 directly into alfalfa. The alfalfa was killed in spring by separate applications of glyphosate and carfentrazone. Five rates varying from 0 to 112 pounds of nitrogen per acre (lb. N/ac.) were applied at seeding time.

Table 1: Grain and forage yield of oat sown on no-till alfalfa breaking in response to nitrogen application rates

Oat variety	N rate lb. N/ac	Grain bu/ac	Forage ton/ac	Oat variety	N rate lb. N/ac	Grain bu/ac	Forage ton/ac
CDC Haymaker	0	134	5.31	Triactor	0	119	5.65
CDC Haymaker	22	124	6.24	Triactor	22	117	6.69
CDC Haymaker	45	122	6.00	Triactor	45	122	6.06
CDC Haymaker	67	118	6.52	Triactor	67	109	6.27
CDC Haymaker	89	108	6.80	Triactor	89	120	5.91
CDC Haymaker	112	115	5.40	Triactor	112	102	6.77

The lack of response to nitrogen by oats on alfalfa breaking was surprising. There was no response in grain or forage yield with either the milling or the forage oat variety. Key factors in this demonstration were rainfall and irrigation. Growing season rainfall was sufficient to keep the soil moist throughout the soil profile thereby optimizing nitrogen mineralization from decomposition of the alfalfa residues.

Results indicate that with adequate moisture, nitrogen mineralization on alfalfa breaking is sufficient to produce oats without nitrogen fertilization.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

- Contact Garry Hnatowich, ICDC Research Irrigation Agrologist, at garry.hnatowich@agr.gc.ca or (306) 867-5405; or
- Contact Gary Kruger, Irrigation Agrologist, at gary.kruger@gov.sk.ca or (306) 867-5524.

Fish farms: a potential new market for canola, flax and camelina producers

Aquaculture – fish farming – is a growing industry around the world and in Saskatchewan. The industry has reached the point where the demand for fish food, primarily fishmeal and fish oil, is beginning to exceed the supply, thus putting the growth and sustainability of the industry in jeopardy.

The industry has experimented with substituting vegetable oil for fish oil but this has not worked as well as hoped. Fish oil is unique in that it has high concentrations of docosahexaenoic acid (DHA) and eicosapentaenoic acid (EPA), the so-called "good" polyunsaturated fatty acids which are beneficial to the health and growth of the fish and the humans who will eventually eat the fish. Vegetable oils contain no DHA or EPA, but do contain alpha-linolenic acid (ALA), which some fish can convert to DHA and EPA, although in much lower concentrations than if they had been fed fish oil.

Previous research completed at the University of Saskatchewan showed that fish fed vegetable (flax) oil produced fillets that not only had lower levels of the "good" fatty acids, but also higher levels of the "bad" fatty acid, arachidonic acid (AA), which is linked to the potential development of arthritis, rheumatism, asthma and other inflammations. Researchers at the University of Saskatchewan, with financial support from the Agriculture Development Fund (ADF), set out to address these challenges and develop a solution.

They obtained rainbow trout from a Lucky Lake fish farm and raised them for 168 days in large tanks similar to a commercial fish farm. The fish were fed four different oils: fish oil, flax oil, canola oil and camelina oil. There had been research done on flax oil in fish feed but there was little data on canola oil and none whatsoever on camelina oil. The earlier flax oil research had shown that adding the antioxidants Vitamin E and butylated hydroxytoluene helped the fish convert ALA to DHA and EPA, so half of each group had the oil supplemented with antioxidants. At the end of the 168 days, the fish were weighed and two fish from each of the eight tanks were filleted, frozen and analyzed.

The research showed that substituting any of the vegetable oils for fish oil had no effect on fish growth, indicating that flax, canola and camelina oil are all equally effective substitutes for fish oil in fish diets. The fatty acid analysis showed that DHA and EPA levels were decreased when fish oil was replaced by any of the three vegetable oils, but that the addition of the antioxidants to the vegetable oils resulted in a significant increase in DHA and a slight increase in EPA. This showed that supplementing the vegetable oils improved the "healthiness" of the fish fillet, but that fish oil was still the superior option.

However, the researchers were still left with the problem of the increased levels of AA in the fish fed vegetable oils. AA production can be significantly reduced by the consumption of the omega-12 fatty acid, petroselinic acid. Coriander oil is rich in petroselinic acid and, as an added benefit, the spice is grown in Saskatchewan.

The researchers launched a second series of trials comparing fish fed antioxidant-supplemented flax, canola and camelina oils with and without the addition of five grams of coriander oil per kilogram of feed. The fish fed the coriander oil/antioxidant combination showed higher levels of DHA and EPA than the fish fed the antioxidant-supplemented oil (whose DHA/EPA levels were already higher than the fish fed pure vegetable oil in the earlier trials). The fish receiving the coriander oil had lower AA levels but the reduction was too small to be significant. Follow-up research, however, did find that AA levels could be significantly reduced by feeding coriander.

Based on these studies, it appears that flax, canola and camelina oils have potential as substitutes for fish oil in commercial aquaculture, provided they are supplemented with antioxidants and coriander oil. Two problems that still need to be addressed are: 1) the production of commercial quantities of coriander oil and 2) finding an economical method of removing the scent and flavour from the coriander oil. The fish fed the coriander oil produced fillets with a very strong coriander flavour, which would be unacceptable in commercial aquaculture. The U of S researchers have established links with the Norwegian University of Life Sciences and Norwegian feed companies in an effort to solve these problems. If these problems can be resolved, aquaculture may become a new market for Saskatchewan's flax, canola, camelina and coriander producers.

The Agriculture Development Fund provides funding to institutions, companies and industry organizations to help them carry out research, development and value-added activities in the agriculture and agri-food sector. The results produce new knowledge, information and choices in technologies, techniques and varieties for farmers, ranchers, processors and input suppliers, to improve the competitiveness of Saskatchewan's agriculture sector.

In 2012, the Saskatchewan Ministry of Agriculture committed $11.8 million in new funding for 60 ADF research projects.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

- Visit the Saskatchewan Agriculture research reports page at www.agriculture.gov.sk.ca/ADF/search and enter the report number #20080137 into the search function.

Researchers at the University of Saskatchewan are working to develop a new market for oilseed producers: aquaculture.

Looking into the future: agriculture is the foundation for opportunity in Saskatchewan

In Saskatchewan, we sit in the driver's seat of one of the most promising sectors in the world economy: the food industry. Agriculture – the supply source for the food industry – has been touted by many as the sector of the future.

After all, food is one of the essentials of life and the United Nations (UN) estimates our global population will surpass nine billion in 2050. Based on growing global demand, the UN Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) estimates food production must rise 70 per cent in that same time period.

The need to satisfy rising global demand continues to push our resourceful industry to come up with innovative ways to increase production using advanced technology. Meanwhile, economics and environmental considerations are forcing farmers to find ways to produce more with less – less land, less water, less inputs and less soil disturbance.

This dichotomy creates a significant challenge. It's a challenge the industry is overcoming every day through determination and innovation; and it's a challenge that makes agriculture a promising career choice for Saskatchewan youth. There are excellent post-secondary education, career, and entrepreneurial opportunities right here in our own province.

The University of Saskatchewan College of Agriculture and Bioresources offers a variety of agriculture programs that lead to successful careers in all sectors of the industry, including agronomy, crop science and ecology to business management, marketing, finance and sales.

Agriculture graduates with a passion for the industry are in high demand in many sectors both on and off the farm. They are recruited locally, nationally and internationally – from primary production, grain handling, seed production, distribution, processing and packaging to research, biotechnology, manufacturing, engineering and more.

Today, agriculture accounts for one in every eight jobs in Canada – more than 97,000 full-time positions in more than 20 sectors.

Meanwhile our farm operations continue to be family run businesses, and on-farm work continues to offer a meaningful, profitable career option. While farm sizes are growing and many are incorporated, 96 per cent of Saskatchewan farms and ranches are still family owned and operated. Farmers in Saskatchewan recognize that Saskatchewan is synonymous with agriculture, and they know from personal experience that the farm is a good place to work, live and play.

Whether they work in the fields, laboratories, production facilities or offices, the people in Saskatchewan who build their lives around agriculture will continue to put their passion for this industry to work to meet increasing global food demand. Now that's a good news story. That's a story worth celebrating.

SCIC ANNOUNCES PHOTO CONTEST

The Saskatchewan Crop Insurance Corporation (SCIC) wants to see Saskatchewan through your lens. Saskatchewan residents are invited to submit their best photos to SCIC, that relate to agriculture, Saskatchewan lifestyle or community.

SCIC administers the Crop Insurance, AgriStability and Wildlife Damage Compensation Programs. The Corporation frequently showcases Saskatchewan photography in its advertising, website, brochures and calendar. Winning photos will be featured in SCIC's 2014 calendar. Other outstanding photos may appear in other SCIC communication pieces. The contest will run over the course of the next year so photos can be collected throughout the seasons.

"For anyone wanting to have their photography exposed to a larger audience, this contest is an ideal opportunity," comments Terri Kentel-Weinheimer, Vice President of Corporate Services at SCIC. "Winning photos will be seen by people across the province. We distribute nearly 40,000 calendars each year."

Digital photographs must be original, unpublished works taken in Saskatchewan. Resolution size must be 300 dpi. The grand prize winner will receive a digital camera. Further contest details can be viewed at http://contest.saskcropinsurance.com.

Kentel-Weinheimer adds, "Saskatchewan is a picturesque province. This contest will bring forward the many ways residents view their lives on the prairie and provide SCIC with a wonderful pictorial study of Saskatchewan."

The entries and photos can be uploaded to the website. Contest closes September 30, 2013.

Growing Forward

Important AgriStability deadline draws closer

December 31, 2012 is an important date for farmers and ranchers enrolled in the AgriStability Program. It is the deadline to file your program forms and pay your program fees to ensure your continued participation in the AgriStability program.

Submitting your program fee by the end of December is essential if you want to participate in the AgriStability program for the 2012 program year. An Enrolment/Fee Notice (EN) was issued earlier in the year providing details about the fee amount and the deadline for payment. April 30, 2012 (or 30 days from the date on your EN, whichever is later), was the initial deadline for paying your program fee. A 20 per cent penalty will be added to the fee amount because the initial deadline was missed.

All forms for the 2011 program year need to be submitted by December 31. This ensures participants can access AgriStability benefits. The initial deadline for sending in program forms was September 30, and because this date has passed, any forms received before December 31 will have a $500 per month penalty; however, if no benefit is calculated there will be no penalty applied.

When submitting 2011 program forms, individuals (sole proprietors) need to remember that supplemental information (inventories, payables, receivables, deferrals and purchased inputs) is to be sent directly to SCIC. An individual's income and expense information should be completed on the T1163 form and submitted to the Canada Revenue Agency. Corporations, cooperatives and other entities are to continue to submit all their program forms directly to SCIC.

There is a new tool for AgriStability participants to use this year when meeting the December 31 deadline. AgConnect, SCIC's online service for AgriStability, enables participants to submit program forms electronically and meet the year-end deadline. A participant can also view their program fee on AgConnect and see whether it is has been paid. If you have not activated your AgConnect account, you can contact the AgriStability Call Centre who can help you get started with this online option.

December 31 is an important deadline. AgriStability Advisors are available to help and can be reached through any of the 21 Crop Insurance offices. If a producer needs to access a form or requires a guide for completing the form, they can be found online at www.saskcropinsurance.com.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

- Contact your local Crop Insurance office;
- Call the AgriStability Call Centre at 1-866-270-8450; or
- Visit www.saskcropinsurance.com.

INTERNATIONAL MARKET DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

by Darryl McCallum, BA Advanced International Business and Development Specialist Policy Branch

As part of the 2012-13 Provincial Agriculture budget, the Province announced a $1 million program in support of new international business development activities. The International Market Development Program provides the agriculture industry with financial support to establish, maintain and expand international market presence, increase the number and value of trade missions coming into Saskatchewan, and open, protect and expand market access for Saskatchewan.

The program supports marketing activities designed to attract new buyers and maintain existing markets in a highly competitive environment. Funding is provided for incremental or new market development activities targeted at international markets. The program is open to Saskatchewan businesses, industry, organizations and agriculture shows. Approved applicants can receive funding for up to 50 per cent of eligible costs, to a maximum of $100,000 per applicant. Activities will be funded on a first-come, first-served basis. All projects must be pre-approved. Applications must be submitted by February 1, 2013 and projects must be complete by March 15, 2013.

Testimonials

"Gaining access to International markets is a key priority for Canadian Western Agribition (CWA). The Ministry of Agriculture's new IMDP has already helped Agribition open doors in Asia. On an annual basis we host more than 800 international guests, and for the first time since BSE we have interest from China to attend our show. This would not have been possible without the program or the Ministry of Agriculture's support on the ground. " *Marty Seymour, CWA*

"The program has enabled the Western Canadian Wheat Growers Association (WCWGA) to promote our products to an international audience. With the new marketing environment in Canada there are additional opportunities for Saskatchewan producers and IMDP directly helps us develop these new opportunities." *Levi Wood, WCWGA*

FOR MORE INFORMATION

- Call (306) 787-8516 or email [illegible]

Growing Forward

Post-Farm Food Safety Program deadline reminder

- Funding is available to non-federally registered food processors for the adoption of Vendor Recognition (VR), Hazard Analysis Critical Control Points (HACCP), and International Organization for Standardization 22000 (ISO 22000) food safety systems.
- Work must be completed and/or equipment purchased from April 1, 2009, to December 31, 2012.
- Applications must be received on or before March 1, 2013.
- Applications and information is available on the Ministry of Agriculture's website at www.agriculture.gov.sk.ca or by calling (306) 787-8537.

VOLUNTARY LIVESTOCK TRACEABILITY REBATE DEADLINE REMINDER

- Funding is available to livestock handlers for the purchase or lease of new hand-held and/or panel Radio Frequency Identification (RFID) readers, RFID software, panel RFID installation, ultra-rugged computers with a rating of IP67 and RFID training. Limited funding is also available for facility modifications directly required to undertake traceability.
- Materials, equipment, and/or services must be purchased or leased between April 1, 2009 and January 31, 2013.
- Applications must be received on or before January 31, 2013.
- Applications and information is available on the Ministry of Agriculture's website at www.agriculture.gov.sk.ca or by calling 1-877-874-5365.

FARM AND RANCH WATER INFRASTRUCTURE PROGRAM DEADLINE REMINDER

- The deadline for applications is now closed.
- All projects must be completed by March 15, 2013.
- All claims must be submitted by March 31, 2013.
- Claim forms are available on the Ministry of Agriculture's website at www.agriculture.gov.sk.ca or by calling 1-877-874-5365.

Growing Forward

Farm Business Development Initiative program wrap-up

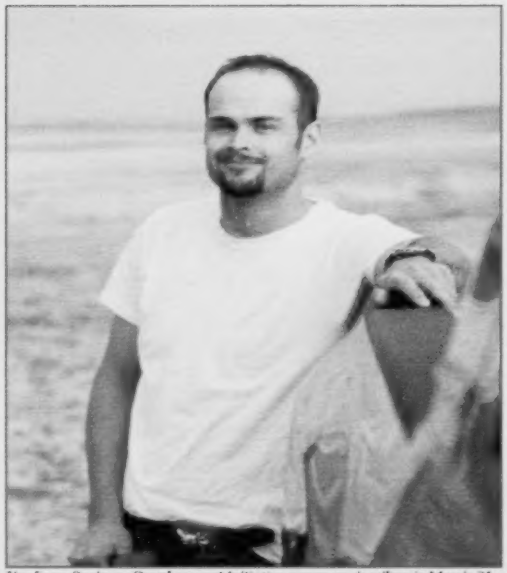
by Doris Morrow
Manager, Farm Business Management Services
Regional Services Branch

For the last four years, the Ministry has been delivering the Farm Business Development Initiative (FBDI) and FBDI for Young Farmers. These programs are scheduled to end on March 31, 2013. These programs have enabled Saskatchewan producers to conduct self-assessments of their operations in nine best management practice areas and create unique Farm Development Plans.

The final date for accepting new applications, or to make revisions to existing applications, is December 31, 2012. If you are enrolled in the program and using consulting services, please work with your consultant to obtain a final written report by January 31, 2013. All training/learning activities must be completed by February 28, 2013. All requests for payments should be submitted immediately following these dates and must be received no later than March 31, 2013.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

- Contact your nearest Ministry of Agriculture Regional Office;
- Call the Agriculture Knowledge Centre at 1-866-457-2377; or
- Visit www.agriculture.gov.sk.ca.



The Farm Business Development Initiative program deadline is March 31, 2013.

ADOPT PROGRAM CONTINUES TO FUND PROJECTS

by Todd Jorgenson, PAg
Manager, East Regional Offices
Regional Services Branch

The Ministry of Agriculture's ADOPT (Agricultural Demonstration of Practices and Technologies) program has proven to be very popular. This program provides funding to producer groups to evaluate and demonstrate new agricultural technologies and practices at the local level. Throughout the province, there have been 255 projects supported since the start of the program in 2009, and an additional 16 projects were approved for funding in August 2012.

Most projects are undertaken at established demonstration facilities, such as the eight producer-led Agri-ARM sites, but many projects also take place right at the farm level. Regional Services Branch specialists work closely with producer groups and provide hands-on assistance to help ensure many of the ADOPT projects are carried out accurately and yield valid information. They also help to explain results to producers at field days and extension events.

If a producer or producer group is interested in developing an ADOPT project, contact one of the Ministry's Regional Specialists. They can assist in developing the concept, project design, location and logistics and help with the application process.

Producer groups are eligible for up to $10,000 per site, per project, up to a total of $75,000 per year. Funding is mainly for projects completed in one year; however, multi -year projects will also be considered. The deadline for applications for fall projects is December 15 and for spring projects is June 15.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

- Contact your local Regional Services Specialist; or
- Contact Jeff Braidek, ADOPT Evaluation Co-ordinator, at (306) 933-6016, or by email at evaluation.coordinator@gov.sk.ca.

The ADOPT fall deadline for projects is December 15, 2012.

Saskatchewan Ministry of Agriculture

Provincial Land Available for Lease

THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE INVITES APPLICATIONS TO LEASE THE AGRICULTURAL CROWN LANDS LISTED HEREIN.

GENERAL INFORMATION

1. Completed application forms must be received by the appropriate land agrologist at the addresses provided in the following pages by 5:00 p.m., Wednesday December 19, 2012.
2. Application forms are available from the Ministry of Agriculture's regional offices.
3. Late application forms will be rejected; incomplete applications may be rejected.
4. Improvements such as summerfallow, fencing, dugouts, etc. must be purchased by the successful applicant.
5. Lands offered for lease may have development restrictions.
6. Additional information can be obtained from the Ministry of Agriculture's regional offices, Rural Municipality offices or online at www.agriculture.gov.sk.ca.
7. The Ministry of Agriculture is not responsible for errors or omissions in the advertisement and reserves the right to withdraw lands from the lease allocation process at any time.

An applicant must meet the requirements of the Agricultural Crown Land Lease Policy which include but are not limited to:

- be at least 18 years of age;
- actively manage and operate a farm or ranch unit;
- be a Canadian citizen or landed immigrant;
- have a resource base that is not greater than 200 per cent of the municipal average;
- have legal access to the land or written agreements for crossing adjoining lands; and
- have existing accounts with the Ministry of Agriculture in an acceptable status.

Land is allocated only to qualified applicants.

LAND AGROLOGISTS

CONTACT	PHONE	EMAIL ADDRESS
Valerie Townsend-Fraser	(306) 848-2378	Valerie.Townsend-Fraser@gov.sk.ca
Brent McInnis	(306) 778-8295	Brent.McInnis@gov.sk.ca
Don Fontaine	(306) 933-5682	Don.Fontaine@gov.sk.ca
Dave Junk	(306) 878-8820	Dave.Junk@gov.sk.ca
Tracey Charabin	(306) 446-7685	Tracey.Charabin@gov.sk.ca
David Shortt	(306) 446-7463	David.Shortt @gov.sk.ca
Jessica Williams	(306) 778-8292	Jessica.Williams@gov.sk.ca
Tim Feist	(306) 862-1789	Tim.Feist@gov.sk.ca
Trish Johnson	(306) 446-7630	Patricia.Johnson@gov.sk.ca
Karen Smith	(306) 878-8897	Karen.Smith@gov.sk.ca

RM	Land Desc	Acres	Codes	AUM	Est Rent
	For information about land in the following RMs contact: ***VALERIE TOWNSEND-FRASER*** ***Box 2003, 110 Souris Avenue*** ***WEYBURN SK S4H 2Z9*** ***(306) 848-2378***				
2	NW-31-03-33-1 *Cult acres have reverted. Oil well sites are not included.*	154	F,C	15	$2,000
3	NW-7-02-03-2 *Fence needs repair.*	160	F,G	72	$400
4	NE-12-02-04-2 *Needs fence on east side.*	160	F,G	72	$400
37	[NE-29-05-13-2 SE-29-05-13-2] *Wildlife reservation.*	314	F,W,G	96	$1,000
67	NW-29-07-15-2 *LSD's 13 & 14.*	80	H	150	$900
68	SE-34-09-17-2 *Area is presently flooded. LSD's 1 & 8.*	40	H	30	$200
91	[NW-11-12-31-1 SW-11-12-31-1] *Wildlife reservation.*	319	F,G	172	$1,000
92	NW-29-11-33-1 *Heavy bush quarter. Wildlife reservation.*	160	F,G	24	$100
93	NW-29-10-01-2 *Wildlife reservation. 25 ac. hay. Need fence W side.*	160	F,H,G	91	$600
95	[NE-3-11-09-2 SE-3-11-09-2] *Flooding.*	57	H	26	$100
123	NW-11-15-02-2 *Wildlife reservation.*	160	F,W,G	70	$400
123	[NE-11-14-01-2 NW-11-14-01-2] *Wildlife reservation.*	319	F,W,G	70	$400
	For information about land in the following RMs contact: ***KAREN SMITH*** ***BOX 1480, 1105-99TH STREET*** ***TISDALE SK S0E 1T0*** ***(306)878-8897***				
152	NE-29-18-31-1	162	G,F	35	$500
181	[SE-33-20-30-1 SW-33-20-30-1]	320	H	185	$2,300
186	SW-20-19-11-2	156	G	44	$300
222	SE-8-22-28-2	80	G,A	120	$800
246	NE-11-27-11-2	160	G	29	$200
276	SW-33-32-10-2	41	G	18	$100
282	[SW-28-30-28-2 NE-29-30-28-2 SE-29-30-28-2]	414	G,F	171	$1,000
	For information about land in the following RMs contact: ***BRENT MCINNIS*** ***BOX 5000, 350 CHEADLE STREET W*** ***SWIFT CURRENT SK S9H 4G3*** ***(306)778-8295***				
163	NE-4-18-01-3 *LSD's 9 & 10.*	79	H	92	$500
163	NE-35-18-01-3	30	F,G	14	$80

MORE LAND LISTINGS ON NEXT PAGE

CODES: A - Access limitations, B - Buildings, C - Cultivation, CE - Conservation easement, FW - Farm woodlot, F - Fencing, G - Grazing, GS - Grain storage, H - Hay, I - Irrigation, LA - Living accomodation, LF - Livestock facilities, O - Other, OP - Outfitting prohibited, PL - Project limitations, P - Power, W - Water, Y - Yardsite. *[Denotes land is to be leased as a unit.]

AUM - Animal unit month. Describes the desired carrying capacity of the grazing land.

PL - Project limitations - "An applicant must have less than the pre-determined maximum area or number of plots allowed per individual in special project areas. Where an applicant surrenders a plot or area it shall be allocated to the next highest scorer, until all of the plots are allocated."

RM	Land Desc	Acres	Codes	AUM	Est Rent
	For information about land in the following RMs contact: ***DAVE JUNK*** ***BOX 1480, 1105-99TH STREET*** ***TISDALE SK S0E 1T0*** ***(306)878-8820***				
271	[NW-12-29-32-1 SE-13-29-32-1]	211	G,F	110	$670
275	[NE-29-28-08-2 SE-29-28-08-2 SW-29-28-08-2]	401	G	58	$360
275	[NE-29-30-08-2 SE-29-30-08-2]	312	G	98	$600
333	SW-36-36-02-2 *LSD's 4 & 5.*	80	H	8	$110
367	NW-30-38-14-2	150	H	23	$280
367	[NW-19-38-14-2 SW-19-38-14-2]	183	G,F	52	$320
397	[NE-3-41-14-2 NW-3-41-14-2 NE-4-41-14-2]	359	G,F	61	$380
426	SE-11-42-12-2	159	C		$1,440
	For information about land in the following RMs contact: ***TIM FEIST*** ***BOX 1480, 1105-99TH STREET*** ***TISDALE SK S0E 1T0*** ***(306)862-1789***				
368	SE-7-38-18-2	130	H	80	$800
398	NE-28-41-16-2 *Lessee must enter into a Grazing Plan with the Ministry.*	130	G	19	$120
430	NW-9-43-22-2	159	C	16	$1,000
430	SE-14-43-22-2 *Access is limited.*	160	H,A	36	$500
430	NE-21-43-22-2 *LSD's 10 & 15.*	80	G	57	$350
430	SW-19-45A-22-2	30	H	30	$300
430	NE-36-43-24-2	120	C	12	$500
430	SE-11-44-24-2 *Rental to be waived in 2013 due to condition of the land.*	111	C	5	$650
430	SW-11-44-24-2 *Rental to be waived in 2013 due to condition of the land.*	80	C	0	$950
431	NW-36-43-01-3 *Lessee must enter into a Grazing Plan with the Ministry.*	160	G	42	$250
431	SE-11-44-01-3 *Lessee must enter into a Grazing Plan with the Ministry.*	160	G	32	$200
459	NW-30-48-21-2 *Lessee must enter into a Grazing Plan with the Ministry.*	159	G	25	$200
459	[SW-18-49-21-2 NE-13-49-22-2]	202	H	244	$1,500
463	SE-35-47-01-3 *Lessee must enter into a Grazing Plan with the Ministry.*	159	G	23	$150
486	NE-21-49-08-2	158	G,F	88	$550
486	SW-30-52-11-2	160	C		$200
486	[NE-23-49-08-2 SE-23-49-08-2 NW-24-49-08-2 SW-24-49-08-2]	390	G,F	218	$1,360
487	NE-13-49-18-2 *Land above SaskPower Take Line only.*	48	H	24	$200
487	SW-13-49-18-2	160	H	100	$700
488	NE-33-52-13-2 *West of old fireguard road only. Lessee must enter into a Grazing Plan with the Ministry.*	135	H	14	$90
488	NW-5-53-14-2 *Lessee must enter into a Grazing Plan with the Ministry.*	158	H	24	$150
490	NW-33-50-22-2 *LSD 12.*	41	H	60	$400
490	[NE-28-50-22-2 NW-28-50-22-2 SW-28-50-22-2] *LSD's 3, 6, 10 & 11.*	160	H	120	$800
490	[SE-32-50-22-2 SW-32-50-22-2] *LSD's 2, 3 & 4.*	119	G,F	40	$300
491	SE-29-51-25-2 *Plot #2.*	40	H,PL	50	$500
491	SE-29-51-25-2 *Plot #3.*	47	H,PL	50	$500
491	SE-31-51-25-2 *Plot #18.*	40	H,PL	50	$400
491	NE-25-51-26-2 *Plot #40.*	40	H,PL	50	$400
491	NE-25-51-26-2 *Plot #41.*	40	H,PL	50	$400
491	NE-36-51-26-2 *Plot #47.*	40	H,PL	50	$400
491	[NE-29-51-25-2 NW-29-51-25-2] *Plots #5, #9 & #10.*	160	H,PL	200	$1,600
493	NW-30-52-02-3 *Access is limited.*	160	G,F	23	$140
493	[NE-14-48-03-3 SW-14-48-03-3 SE-23-48-03-3] *Lessee must enter into a Grazing Plan with the Ministry.*	373	G,A	72	$450
520	NE-9-52-22-2 *Lessee must enter into a Grazing Plan with the Ministry.*	147	G,F	31	$200
520	[NW-15-52-22-2 SW-15-52-22-2]	320	G,F	104	$600
520	[NE-16-52-22-2 NW-16-52-22-2] *Lessee must enter into a Grazing Plan with the Ministry.*	297	G,F	63	$400
	For information about land in the following RMs contact: ***DON FONTAINE*** ***1192-102ND STREET*** ***NORTH BATTLEFORD SK S9A 1E9*** ***(306)933-5682***				
257	NE-18-26-13-3	159	G	33	$200
314	NW-29-32-04-3 *Plot #6.*	27	H	20	$100
	For information about land in the following RMs contact: ***TRACEY CHARBAIN*** ***1192-102ND STREET*** ***NORTH BATTLEFORD SK S9A 1E9*** ***(306)446-7685***				
261	[SE-8-23-27-3 SW-8-23-27-3] *Chesterfield Irrigation Plots 7a and 7b.*	32	H	17	$200
261	[NE-16-23-27-3 SE-21-23-27-3] *Chesterfield Irrigation Plots 15a and 15b.*	50	H	78	$500
319	NE-1-33-19-3	40	C	2	$300
349	NE-3-35-19-3 *NW of lake. Access permission required with application.*	59	C,A	1	$600
349	[NE-11-35-19-3 NW-11-35-19-3]	319	G,W,F	134	$800
349	[NW-15-35-20-3 SW-15-35-20-3] *East of Tramping Lake. Access permission required with application.*	95	G,A	23	$100
377	SE-1-39-14-3 *Requires fencing.*	60	F	15	$100
438	NW-11-42-18-3	159	C,G	20	$1,700
442	NW-30-45-27-3 *East of Battle River. Access permission required with application.*	54	G,F	21	$100

MORE LAND LISTINGS ON NEXT PAGE

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RM	Land Desc	Acres	Codes	AUM	Est Rent
	For information about land in the following RMs contact: ***TRISH JOHNSON*** ***1192-102ND STREET*** ***NORTH BATTLEFORD SK S9A 1E9*** ***(306)446-7630***				
406	[NE-16-41-13-3 SE-21-41-13-3] *Requires additional fencing.*	220	G	77	$400
494	[NE-8-53-05-3 NW-9-53-05-3]	318	G	72	$500
496	NE-33-49-12-3 *Requires additional fencing.*	164	G	25	$300
	For information about land in the following RMs contact: ***DAVID SHORTT*** ***1192-102ND STREET*** ***NORTH BATTLEFORD SK S9A 1E9*** ***(306)446-7463***				
498	SW-19-52-16-3 *Hay floods.*	13	H		$0
498	SE-10-50-18-3 *Access Limited.*	160	G,F,A	45	$300
498	[NE-2-53-18-3 NW-2-53-18-3 SE-2-53-18-3 SW-2-53-18-3 NE-3-53-18-3 NW-3-53-18-3 SE-3-53-18-3 SW-3-53-18-3 NE-11-53-18-3 NW-11-53-18-3 SE-11-53-18-3 SW-11-53-18-3] *Dugouts, electric fence.*	1920	G,F,A,W	480	$2,400

RM	Land Desc	Acres	Codes	AUM	Est Rent
561	NE-28-59-20-3 *Grazing need access permission.*	43	G,A	11	$100
561	[NE-28-59-20-3 SE-33-59-20-3 NE-34-59-20-3 SE-34-59-20-3 SW-34-59-20-3] *Grazing, dugout.*	387	G,F,LF	259	$2,000
588	NW-20-59-19-3 *Hay.*	9		4	$25
588	SE-1-60-20-3 *Hay plot #21.*	39	H		$400
588	[NE-1-60-20-3 NW-1-60-20-3] *Hay plots #26, #27 & #28.*	102	H	105	$1,100
588	[NE-24-60-20-3 SE-24-60-20-3] *Access Limited.*	241	G,F,A	24	$200
588	NE-36-59-20-3 *Hay plots #3 & #4.*	77	H	77	$1,000
	For information about land in the following RMs contact: ***JESSICA WILLIAMS*** ***BOX 5000, 350 CHEADLE STREET W*** ***SWIFT CURRENT SK S9H 4G3*** ***(306)778-8292***				
166	SW-29-16-12-3 *Hay plots #8 & #9.*	25	H,I	46	$300
166	SW-29-16-12-3 *Hay plot #6.*	16	H,I	30	$100
225	[NW-31-21-07-3 NE-36-21-08-3 SE-36-21-08-3 SW-36-21-08-3] *Requires proof of access with application. Some fencing required.*	140	G,W,A	29	$200

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ON THE WEB

Pruning Fruit Trees Video

Forrest Scharf, the Saskatchewan Ministry of Agriculture's Provincial Specialist for Fruit Crops outlines key features of pruning that are important for commercial fruit production.
Available at: www.agriculture.gov.sk.ca/web_videos.

BSE Testing

New information on Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy (BSE) testing.
Available at: www.agriculture.gov.sk.ca/BSE.

Animal Health

The Ministry's Animal Health Unit has been busy creating new content for the website, including information on biosecurity, Equine Herpes Virus (EHV-1) and post-calving nutrition.
Available at: www.agriculture.gov.sk.ca/Livestock-Animal-Health-Welfare.

Grain Marketing Workshops – coming to a community near you

by Steeves Tremblay
Provincial Business Management Specialist
Regional Services Branch

The Ministry of Agriculture is hosting eight grain marketing workshops across the province between January and February 2013.

Keynote speakers from the grain industry will provide farmers with an overview of available grain contracts, commodity market research and how market trends may influence farm profitability.

Participants will have the opportunity to gain a greater understanding of grain marketing and commodity market behaviour, and learn how to adapt to changes in the grain marketing environment.

To register for a workshop, contact your nearest Saskatchewan Agriculture Regional Office or the Agriculture Knowledge Centre. Workshops will be during the day, free of charge and will include lunch. As times for the workshop are scheduled, they will be available on the Ministry of Agriculture website.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

- Visit your local Regional Services Office;
- Contact the Agriculture Knowledge Centre at 1-866-457-2377; or
- Visit www.agriculture.gov.sk.ca.

Workshop Schedule

Moose Jaw Heritage Inn 1590 Main Street North	January 16, 2013
Tisdale Tisdale RECplex 800 – 101st Street	January 17, 2013
Outlook Heritage Centre 420 Railway Street West	January 23, 2013
Kindersley Kindersley Inn 601 11th Avenue East	January 29, 2013
Swift Current Living Sky Casino 1401 North Service Road East	January 30, 2013
Watrous Manitou Springs Hotel 302 McLachlan Avenue Manitou Beach	February 5, 2013
Prince Albert Travelodge Prince Albert 3551 2nd Avenue West	February 7, 2013
Yorkton St. Mary's Cultural Centre 240 Wellington Street	February 12, 2013

DEVELOP AND IMPLEMENT AN EFFECTIVE COMMODITY MARKETING/RISK MANAGEMENT PLAN

Price volatility and weather risk make pricing decisions increasingly difficult and impact both returns and margins. How does one decide how much to hedge or contract?

The Saskatchewan Young Ag-Entrepreneurs (SYA) and the Saskatchewan Ministry of Agriculture are teaming up with Dr. Larry Martin to present two in-depth seminars on futures and options. Dr. Martin has taught Canadian and international traders how to hedge for more than 30 years, to 1,000 or more traders through his programs at the University of Guelph, the George Morris Centre and other venues. In addition, he has worked with companies in developing and implementing their risk management programs, and has coached a number of farmers and processors from across Canada on implementing their hedging programs.

Saskatchewan Young Ag-Entrepreneurs

These seminars are for farmers and agri-businesses who want to learn how to manage commodity price risk effectively. "The major issue in risk management programs is lack of discipline, and discipline can only occur if the manager has a plan with clear objectives," says Martin. SYA and Martin developed a two-course sequence that will result in the development of a disciplined hedging plan for those who enroll.

The first seminar, to be held the week of February 11, 2013, is for those with limited experience and knowledge about futures and options, as well as their relationship to forward contracts offered by the private sector. "Using futures and options is not something you learn in a half-day or even a two-day course," Rodney Voldeng, Chair of SYA said. Over three days, it will go from basic commodity marketing definitions through basis, hedging with futures and options, forward contracting and technical analysis, taught with hands-on examples.

The second seminar, during the week of March 18, 2013, focuses on using the information from the first course to develop a disciplined plan that will include objectives and outline the use of futures, options or forward contracts.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

- Contact the Saskatchewan Young Ag-Entrepreneurs at sya@saskyoungag.ca; or
- Contact your local Regional Farm Business Management Specialist.

EVENTS CALENDAR

DATE	EVENT	LOCATION	PHONE	INTERNET
December 4, 2012	Cattle Producers Appreciation Night	Eastend Memorial Hall, Eastend, SK	1-866-457-2377	www.agriculture.gov.sk.ca
December 4 - 5, 2012	Annual ICDC/SIPA Irrigation Conference	Moose Jaw, SK	306-867-5523	www.irrigationsaskatchewan.com
December 7 - 8, 2012	Sheep Development Board Annual General Meeting and Symposium	Saskatoon, SK	306-933-5200	www.sksheep.com
December 7, 2012	Heifer Development Workshop	Alameda, SK	1-866-457-2377	www.agriculture.gov.sk.ca
December 8, 2012	Heifer Development Workshop	Maple Creek, SK	1-866-457-2377	www.agriculture.gov.sk.ca
December 12 - 13, 2012	Foraging into the Future 7	Living Sky Casino, Swift Current, SK	1-866-457-2377	www.agriculture.gov.sk.ca
January 7 - 10, 2013	Crop Production Week	Saskatoon, SK	1-866-457-2377	www.agriculture.gov.sk.ca
January 7, 2013	Saskatchewan Flax Development Commission's Flax Day Conference	Saskatoon, SK	306-664-1901	www.saskflax.com
January 7 - 8, 2013	Pulse Days 2013	Prairieland Park, Saskatoon, SK	1-866-457-2377	www.agriculture.gov.sk.ca
January 10, 2013	SaskCanola Producer Conference and Annual General Meeting	Saskatoon, SK	306-975-0262	www.saskcanola.com
January 16 - 18, 2013	Western Canadian Wheat Growers Association Annual Convention	Sutton Place Hotel, Edmonton, AB	204-256-2353	www.wheatgrowers.ca
January 23 - 25, 2013	Saskatchewan Beef Industry Conference (SBIC)	Saskatoon, SK	306-731-7610	www.saskbeefconference.com
February 13 - 15, 2013	Western Barley Growers Association Annual Convention	Deerfoot Inn and Casino, Calgary, AB	403-912-3998	www.wbga.org

Regional Services

BRINGING YOU AGRICULTURAL EXPERTISE AND ADVICE WHEN YOU NEED IT AND WHERE YOU NEED IT

The Ministry of Agriculture has 10 regional offices in Kindersley, Moose Jaw, North Battleford, Outlook, Prince Albert, Swift Current, Tisdale, Weyburn, Watrous and Yorkton.

In addition, seven satellite offices are open in the following locations:

Assiniboia
Tuesdays 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.
SCIC Customer Service Office, 401 - 1st Avenue West, Assiniboia
Phone: 1-866-457-2377

Estevan
Wednesdays 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.
SCIC Customer Service Office, #5 – 419 Kensington Avenue, Estevan
Phone: (306) 848-2857

Lloydminster - NEW LOCATION
Thursdays 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.
Exhibition Grounds, 5521 - 49th Avenue, Lloydminster
Phone: (306) 446-7962

Meadow Lake
Wednesdays 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.
Wiciwakan Place, 101 Railway Place, Meadow Lake
Phone: (306) 446-7962

Moosomin
Wednesdays 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.
SCIC Customer Service Office, 709 Carleton Street, Moosomin
Phone: (306) 786-1531

Shaunavon
Wednesdays 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.
SCIC Customer Service Office, 55 3rd Avenue East, Shaunavon
Phone: (306) 778-8285

Wadena
Tuesdays 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.
RM of Lakeview Office, Highway 35 South, Wadena
Phone: (306) 946-3230

Saskatchewan Agriculture